

PRESS RELEASE

January 2, 2008

January 4, 2008 is the first day nominating petitions may be issued for the August 7, 2008 State Primary. Democrat and Republican nominees will be selected by voters to fill four Tennessee State House of Representative seats and one State Senate seat including the 34th, 48th, 49th, and 62nd and the 16th State Senatorial seat. Party nominees will advance to the November 4, 2008 State General Election.

Individuals interested in running must obtain a qualifying petition from the Rutherford County Election Commission or the State Coordinator of Elections office in Nashville. Nominating petitions must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) voters who are registered in the candidate's house or senate district. Each voter who signs the petition must also supply his or her residence address as it appears on his or her voter registration records.

To seek or hold the Office of Tennessee Senator, a person must be at least 30 years of age, a citizen of the United States, have been a citizen of Tennessee for 3 years and a resident in the county 1 year immediately preceding the election, and a qualified voter of the legislative district.

To seek or hold the office of Tennessee House of Representative, a person must be at least 21 years of age, a citizen of the United States, have been a citizen of Tennessee for 3 years and a resident in the county 1 year immediately preceding the election, and a qualified voter of the legislative district.

Primary candidates must file their nominating petitions no later than 12:00 noon on April 3, 2008 to qualify. Candidates who intend to run as independents must also file their petitions by 12:00 NOON April 3, 2008.

Primary candidates must file their original nominating petition in the office of the County Election Commission in the county of residence and a certified duplicate in the county Election Commission office in each county wholly or partially within the candidates House or Senate district. Each of these documents must be received by the respective Election Commissions by the qualifying deadline. There are no filing fees.

For additional information about the Election process or procedures, please call the Rutherford County Election Commission at (615) 898-7743.